

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 USNATO 01049 011320Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----114961 020148Z /41

R 011312Z FEB 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9063
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY RABAT
ALL NATO CAPITALS

S E C R E T USNATO 01049

EXDIS

DEPT PASS USNMR SHAPE, USCINCEUR, USDOCOSOUTH, USDELMC

MILITARY ADDRESSEES TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: NATO, SP, US
SUBJECT: SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO

REFS: (A) STATE 004756 (DTG 071859Z JAN 78),
(B) 77 STATE 226467 (DTG 210232Z SEP 77), (C) 77 USNATO
09680 (DTG 071 544Z OCT 77), (D) USNATO 00901 (DTG
271519Z JAN 78 NOTAL), (E) USNATO 00893 (DTG 271132Z
JAN 78 NOTAL)

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1. THE AMBASSADOR MET WITH SYG LUNS JANUARY 30 TO
REVIEW INFORMALLY THE US APPROACH TO SPANISH ENTRY
INTO NATO AS OUTLINED IN REFS A AND B. NOTING OUR
DESIRE TO SEE THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTITUTIONAL
DIALOGUE LINKING SPAIN AND THE NATO INTERNATIONAL AND
INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFFS, THE AMBASSADOR SAID WE
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PAGE 02 USNATO 01049 011320Z

WOULD NOT BE APPROACHING THE ALLIES FORMALLY UNTIL WE
HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GAUGE SPANISH REACTION.

2. LUNS REACTED POSITIVELY TO THE IDEA OF A DIRECT
DIALOGUE BETWEEN NATO AND SPAIN, SAYING THAT NATO
SHOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO SPANISH REQUESTS AND THAT
SPAIN CAN HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION IT WANTS. HOWEVER,

HE CONTINUED, ATTENDANCE OF SPANISH OBSERVERS AT THE NATO DEFENSE COLLEGE (REF D) IS A SEPARATE ISSUE SINCE PERMREPS HAD GENERALLY RESISTED THE IDEA.

3. LUNS STRESSED THAT THOSE WHO DESIRE SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE NORWEGIAN AND DANISH SOCIALISTS TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO CONVERT THE PSOE. HE STATED THAT THE SPD IN GERMANY WILL PLAY A USEFUL ROLE WITH SPANISH SOCIALISTS AND THAT PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER SOARES ALSO MIGHT HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THEM.

4. COMMENT: THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S POSITIVE REACTION TO A POSSIBLE DIALOGUE DIRECTLY BETWEEN SPAIN AND NATO HEADQUARTERS SHOULD NOT LEAD TO UNDUE OPTIMISM SINCE ANY ONE OF THE ALLIES MIGHT OBJECT WHEN A DIALOGUE IS FORMALLY PROPOSED, PARTICULARLY IF THE RELEASE OF NATO CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IS AT ISSUE. THE PERMREPS' NEGATIVE REACTION TO THE REQUEST FOR OBSERVERS AT THE NATO DEFENSE COLLEGE AND RECENT CANADIAN AND DANISH CONCERN ABOUT THE PROPRIETY OF SPANISH OBSERVERS AT THE JANUARY NATO ECONOMIC COLLOQUIUM (REF E) MAY PROVE TO BE A MORE ACCURATE INDICATION OF ALLIED REACTION TO A DIALOGUE THAN LUNS' FORTHCOMING RESPONSE TO THE AMBASSADOR. BENNETT

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